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Joseph Peace Hazard

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### Travel letter no. 04, Series 2

Joseph Peace Hazard

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No 4

Please to take good care of the Photo of  
Miss Livmore by Gurney -

Rio de Janeiro 25 Dec. 66

Dear Brother & Sister

I yesterday mailed No 3 for  
(the packet S. America which sails for N. York to day)  
enclosing one also for Bob & Anna Harwood

The weather continues cool enough, <sup>on me</sup> though  
some think it sultry - It has rained more  
or less ~~every~~ every day since I landed, which  
is a mitigation of heat - North & south of  
Rio it is rainy season and was so formerly  
here, but latter years there seems to be no  
strictly rainy season about Rio, though it  
rains not unfrequently <sup>here</sup> particularly coincidently  
about this time of year -

Last night and yesterday <sup>early part of</sup> and to day  
(some of the bells must be very heavy by their depth & number tone)  
also, ~~was~~ great ringing of bells - very merry  
musk of it - a great rattling made by bells  
in the belfry, with rapidly piced hummors.  
Rockets & crackers also are abundant  
but all these demonstrations are common to every  
Sabbath, I saw & heard the same at Bahia -

Last night the rattle & ring of bells was almost  
incessant, and I am told festas will be held  
at many of the churches during the entire week  
I believe as a rule wherever are greatest numbers  
of religious "fastas" most felons are also found -  
It is said the ~~so~~ many of the best men  
have been sent to the war, that more will  
be less and inferior this season -

There are fewer churches here than I expected  
to find from what I saw at other So. American  
towns - I see very few priests in the street -  
not much more ~~in~~ the churches - I noticed  
a jet black priest yesterday, and also saw



in a box just opened a black saint  
not yet unpacked, imported for some  
where a chapel here, probably. Some of  
the churches here fine exteriors, are fine  
buildings - but generally disgusting inside  
with miserable tawdry and Christs  
and saints, scarcely superior in execution  
or in taste to the attempts of savage nations.

There are many offerings of legs arms  
&c to the ~~shrines~~ about some of the shrines  
(I have seen only waxen ones) in acknowledgment  
of cures obtained thereat. They frequently exhibit  
the nature of the malady - and are often  
bandaged with ribbons - I have none of  
Elephantiasis represented, which is said to  
be a common malady here, but I have seen  
only one ear, and that not an apparatus one.  
I see some repairing of churches here, but at  
Bahia, Pernambuco & Para a great deal of it  
was going done - reminding of France where it  
seems almost universal a few years ago.

A church on Signal Hill ~~where~~ (the marine  
telegraph station) whence is a view of all  
Rio and its surroundings as also from other  
hills in the midst of and overlooking the city)  
has the date of 1567 on its door.  
Water and gas are plentifully distributed  
on these hills, though they are scarcely  
inhabited or built upon. The view from  
them are very fine commanding the  
city and surroundings as the Pincian  
and others at Rome, No colosseum  
to be seen nor Acqueducts nor  
St Peter nor Cape Tiber but a glorious  
bay the sea and 500 for a fact. But  
even from these heights, the town runs so  
about in the valleys a little plains that we  
between them, that it is hard to find.  
In one of the churches I saw a Ladder



35 feet long, all made of Bamboo, and a  
rings at top of it during the corners etc.

The town fronts on the bay with large  
stone stucco building, the custom house  
& story yard occupying a large frontage -  
but in the rear a mile or so some places  
more we come to the base of the mountain  
spurs, where in the little valleys and on the  
sides and summits of hills are hundreds  
of the most beautiful little villas surrounded  
~~and~~ on its own garden of palm & fruit  
flowers and ~~marbles~~ & fountains & stony  
along winding ways with pretty iron fences  
in front some of them very fine, for miles  
(~~taking~~ all sides of the city) I have seen  
~~the~~ ~~even~~ ~~seen~~ - Most of them must I  
think be hot so against and under the  
hills, but they are really beautiful to see.  
~~These~~ merchants almost all live out there.  
The houses are low, generally, often only  
one story, but frequently with a monument of  
terrace in stucco stone ascending the side  
back to them. The arabesque frieze  
generally in white stucco relief on a red  
blue ground, in great variety of patterns give  
a life and beauty of great effect so unusual  
on our continent. Some of the lots are of  
acres in extent and though not presenting  
the attractions of our nice country seats  
are very charming to see. In many of them a  
high order of architecture and scenic taste  
is exhibited. Some are so tiny and tiny too -  
but with their attributes the adaptation to other  
climate is rather easily suggested. Vegetation is  
very rich here but I have seen nothing since  
leaving the Amazon to compare with the  
general effect of forests there.  
In the suburbs we find also the vegetable  
market garden where most of the vegetables  
we have in our can found. Rice water  
cups is on our table. The Barranema on

some houses are like earlier ones on tops of some mountains with inaccessible



Great muffs oft, but often in row is 20 feet  
high and one half a foot in diameter with  
an immense crop of leaves 5 to 8 or 9 or 10 feet  
long and 12 to 18 inches wide, as the growth  
of 6 hrs, producing a great mass of fruit &  
then dying - The long square Anna tree in  
the garden last summer is plentiful here  
Every tree and shrub abundant, produce abundance  
of fruit, nearly all of which are new to me.  
<sup>and many</sup> of them with ripe and unripe fruit on same tree.  
The Watermelon is small and not so good as  
ours, the Musk-melon large but inferior -  
Sugar Cane is also seen in little patches, and I  
saw the Mediterranean cane or reed - The bamboo  
is from 30 to 50 feet high but not a stalk have I  
seen over 2 inches in diameter - It is used for  
fences frequently, and I think it probable  
cane imported from Carolina & Georgia  
might be economical fencing instead of  
bundles or temporary fence for our farmers -  
The Laminaria hedge is very much used here  
about villas &c. looks like our thorny long pole  
locust, but is richer. The Paper vine pro-  
duces a fruit here about the size of a small  
lemon, what I took for passion vines in Cairo,  
Egypt, produced fruit as long as cucumbers -  
There are green yards ~~also~~ (intended being  
now forbidden in the city) where I saw Cyprus  
but it is shaggy - Weeping willows appear to  
have been introduced within 2 or 3 years, none  
yet over 14 feet high, & promise to equal those  
on the Nile, when they have the most  
twine like drooping I have ever seen -  
I notice the deaths announced in the papers  
here, only one of them 60 years old -  
A funeral passed a few days - a hearse  
all gilt followed at quick trot by 19 carriers -  
The coffin being in a felt cart of the hearse  
I could not see it - I see also very plain  
hearses for the poor - I remember to have  
an undertaker advertisement offering his  
patrons funerals would be performed "by  
him at as reasonable rates as any body"  
"Pafomana" is the true term there.



Gas and hydrants of water extend in every direction. I never saw a place so well supplied so far as the streets are concerned - all along the road into the country as well as on the highest hills with scarce a house on them, in the town.

A few days ago I took a "Gondola" little omnibus, down to "Botafogo" a beautiful suburb and pretty village, all the way a town along the bay shore. Thence I walked about 3 miles to the Botanic Garden, fine mountain views all the way, with villages, and some of them on arms of the sea though I could not see the sea - a pretty street of silver paving down the rocky side of a mountain, the water & gas and little restaurants all the way out. I noticed a real spring house by one of the villages - that are only ~~scattered~~ at intervals there 3 miles, and on the coast. I went into a large garden of a Portuguese who owned a Brazilian Stratum an common & figs - this place propagated into the salt water - quite insular. The gardener picked some very good peaches for me which hundreds of ants resorted with great vigour on his bare feet. He also gave me some other very rare fruit, but more in flavour and consistency like our "Swamp Cheese" than (an mint produces in the wild azuleia) than any other I know of.

By the road side were masses of sensitive plant, which touching with any open umbrella, fell instantly, apparently as dead as if it had been all cut down 24 hours.



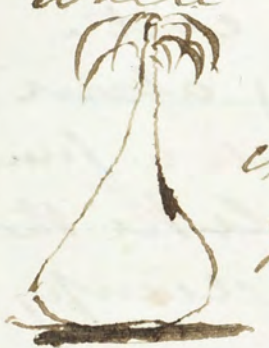
The only frog I have seen I undertook to catch there, but he made such long and desperate leaps I concluded it must be a bird until at last I got up to it. The mountains then run very abruptly from 500 to perhaps 1500 feet high and look more like ~~magnificent~~ huge masses of meteoric iron than like stone. ~~a great deal of~~ Their steep portions being usually bare - present the hardest appearance of black rock I ever saw yet in their midst arise hills of fully 200 feet height of sand supporting shrubs and trees, ~~but~~ <sup>scarcely</sup> apparently <sup>scarcely</sup> indurated but men were scraping it down with hoes, a nice yellowish grit, suitable for mortar. A great deal of the soil whereon I have been on this coast is red and here are often red hills or cliffs of clay almost ~~scarlet~~ in colour.

The mountains of stone much resemble the domes in the Photo views we see of the Osemette valley. Some looked as if a monkey could not climb them, so smooth & steep and bare. A Negro fishing in one of the coves had fish very like our sea fish not so bright, and a man at a rushing stream of muddy water big as Saccabuluck (twice) had some of beautiful silver about the size of herring. Some trees on the wood half way up the mountain that I see in similar situations near here also, I supposed must be the Steliotype trees I have heard of, they are of that colour, but I am told it is only the colour of large leaves, the foliage. A tree is very common here. One on one side is bright brown the other deepest green, or the two colours promiscuously appearing on the same tree, but there are young brown and old green leaves. The first I saw I thought was lately dead on one side, until I got near to it. The Potancee



Garden is open to all, and no one was  
then to guard the trees & plants or carry  
ventos - The vulgar as usual care their  
names on many a trunk they cannot steal

There are wide and extensive walks which  
I spent 2 hours among - a great variety  
of trees & plants, but the chief object of  
interest is an avenue of Barbados college  
trees - 25 feet wide, the trees being 36 feet  
apart in the row, and 102 in number -  
a straight walk of about 1/3 of a mile  
The trees are about 75 to 90 feet high &  
present a very stately oriental aspect -  
The trunks are about 3 feet diameter a  
few feet from the ground, and what  
is very singular there of 20 feet high are  
about the same size, but saddle-shaped  
while the lower ones taper gradually



This tree appears to be a great favorite  
is being planted very much, and another  
generation will probably find it a  
leading feature of landscape  
gardening here - As novelty it is most  
striking - yet has a peculiar beauty of its  
own despite its stiffness & uniformity of  
character - There are many ~~so~~ <sup>palms</sup> ~~also~~  
also, short decumbent <sup>things</sup> - {The Chinese  
I saw a weeping cedar also, <sup>carves not</sup>  
I know of excepting them, <sup>young</sup> <sup>specimens</sup> <sup>also</sup> the only one  
Pearl date 2 or 3 years ago - The Chinese arbor  
vita grows 20 feet high here, an ugly thing -  
There are plenty of flora that only have a  
flicker of exotic existence here as well as white cedars,  
and ~~so~~ <sup>many</sup> ~~can~~ <sup>reap</sup> the benefit of free  
sowing - The cultivated portion of the  
Garden is not over 200 acres, but there  
is a wilderness of Bambusa Bambusa be  
side - Common trees are numerous  
I walked 10 miles without inconvenience this day  
or even more.



My umbrella handle came off right by an  
acacia tree (probably a Gum Arabic) down the  
tall smooth trunk of which were sluggish  
streams of beautiful gum from wells  
the ichneumon fly was busy above.  
I filled the sockets with tins, and the  
umbrella handle seems as firm as possible.  
There are lucky drivers who break down  
opposite a blacksmith shop, or surgeon.  
The trees are covered here with ferns, but beside  
them, a tree like our Southern is also seen,  
in small quantities, Paraceras of great  
varieties, many of them appear to be varieties  
of aloe, cactus &c, one of the latter producing  
a beautiful crimson flower. The long  
drooping cactus so often seen in green  
houses, hangs down here several feet  
like little ends, a great advantage here  
is that negroes are every where with all sorts of  
fruit on their heads for sale at small cost.  
There are plenty of Grackles (Crows black bird) about  
the country, but they are more glossy & delicate in form  
than ours - little doves very gentle, shaped like the  
"English Robin" about the size of blue bird but clanging  
in form are numerous, also varieties of vireos, and  
a little creature not much larger than our chickadee  
a brilliant blue black & white as a grass hopper.  
Vines are every where, and a running grass  
like that which infects our gardens, here is many  
but long rooting at each joint, and a variety  
of it hangs down the faces of clay cliffs, from the  
top in great rich waving masses 15 or 20 feet long.  
At various Shops are sold cases of all  
the Brilliant Beetles Butterflies & 60 varieties  
of Humming birds - prepared - but I have not  
seen a living humming bird, nor butterfly nor  
butter that appeared unusual.  
The city appears to be too clean for the Buzzards  
but they are very numerous, out in the  
neighbourhood of the Slaughter houses, where  
the meat is brought in great covered waggons  
to the shops in town, without exposing it or  
offending the sight on the way.



must pork is used here in form of lard 9  
And the nuttin is cut off the ribs in large  
flat pieces & hashed, the salt being put  
in the incisions. - Jugged beef from

The La Plata is much used by the poor  
It is composed of salt cod fish, and looks  
like cattle hides  $3/4$  inch thick, being  
in large sheets that are folded or rolled up  
for convenience of carrying by the purchasers  
I find the beef sticks good, and the  
mutton quite tolerable, which I hear is  
very fine here. - Oysters are plenty and  
are good all months (are not planted)  
but never at the full moon, though  
eaten, they are then lean.

I see Spanish chestnuts here roasted nicer  
than I remember them before. - I recollect  
them being large enough in Lisbon to cover  
a silver dollar. Poultry is plenty of all  
kinds, and I see wild ducks & Rabbits on  
the bills of fare. - Cucumbers are much used  
and the Bahia Oranges here are the finest  
I ever saw. - The Tangarina with a <sup>very</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>considered best</sup> <sup>& bronzier</sup> <sup>better than gold</sup> <sup>green</sup>  
skin like the manouin orange of Europe  
but larger is also very fine. There with  
Figs, N. York apples, <sup>Pine Apples</sup> all sorts & Water melons  
Bananas, Mangoes, grapes and various  
other fruits are on the side table ready  
to be served at all times. - The stemps  
or rather trunk of Palmetto (like trunk  
of the Bannano plant) 3 to 5 feet long I  
saw in market, and is said to be a very  
nice vegetable boiled, or served as salad.  
Okra is also abundant, but I see no soup  
of it, Green corn I see upon roasts for themselves.  
Milk was formerly served ~~from~~ direct from  
the cows driven to customers doors, as I think  
I have seen that of goats in Europe, but  
I suspect "condensed" is chiefly used now  
though I see many cow stables - as



25 in a stall, thin, but with very glossy black  
white coats, and the cleanest stables I ever saw.  
At every stall I see huns & mules  
in large numbers, and some white  
horses as pure and brilliant in colour  
and surface as finished statuary  
manly. - An animal <sup>wound with the slightest touch of pink perhaps</sup> can much better bear  
than in the town I saw kept here and  
St Thomas. I saw goats in all the cow  
stables. In England one is generally a skin  
particular with cows, it being considered a good  
sanitary protection for the cows.

The native butter is not salted, and is very  
good, but the imported kind is preferred.  
They use very good tea but inferior coffee  
at the hotel.

Coke, charcoal & wood are all  
used for cooking. The wood is sold by the stick  
counted at the place of delivery. It is very  
hard, but the sticks are about 3 feet long  
and not larger than my wrist. These sell  
for ~~from 2 to 3~~ <sup>about 1 cent</sup> a piece - much more  
than good maple could be sent here from  
America ought to cost, and the whole country  
about here is a forest. The open fields  
on the side hills or flats are green as  
England, and this I noticed to be the case  
all the way from St. Thomas here.

The ground is so wet there is not a cellar  
in Rio, and some houses have a space  
under the first floor of 4 feet for dryness.

I see a great many tin trunks of all  
sizes. Ladies keep all their new dresses  
in tin for protection against the white ant.  
A dry good man told me they were much  
troubled here with moths also, sometimes,  
The Green Parrot hangs at half the shop  
down and there are open Sunday and  
Christmas as on other days. I saw men  
packing a house also to day. - Merchants



appear to be the only clasp who close on Sunday or Christmas, just as in Europe.

The other day in one of the suburbs

I met a nice looking old negro of whom I asked the way - without further question he told me - I have to go to Salem "Bop Town" Fall la del Jay" you know Pingy - Capt Tom - Two broads, one matrimony other no matrimony - - - Mr Brinkhead I tried to talk with him but his English was about exhausted in the one statement. I suppose he meant the Pingree of Salem - I went today to see a 4 story house (one looks like a better work than the 3 lower ones) No 193 Rua Quintada, nearly opposite to an alley - James Brinkhead counting room was in it -

The sticks of wood I mention above are called ashes, a pronunciation that reminds of the Barley in Scotland which they already call "Beer" while it is growing in the fields of the oysters there are 2 kinds, one small, the other are large long and narrow oyster - They call the the Mud oyster - Last winter the we found a long narrow oyster in the mud of Pettquamall river - The first oyster I ever saw, and they say fat, also the saltiest I ever ate - All who have them gave the same account - In the markets I observe great preponderance of Onion & Garlic - Potatoes are imported from Europe in barrels



Quack medicines, louder in their pretensions  
"but as empty quack", than those of the regular  
issue, appear to have possession of the field  
at all the towns I have visited. Ayer must  
spend large sums here in advertising - It all  
helps however to open the way for any thing  
better should it be presented, and I find  
Homoeopathy is much practiced here  
which is destined to finally illustrate the  
folly of doing in general - It is probable  
medicine and its mal administration kills  
ten where it cures one who would not have  
bottom recovered without it, excepting in the  
cases of the few well ascertained specifics -  
A friend barber here has a hair brush  
that goes by mashing one man's hair,  
where Mr. Gates has tried with great  
satisfaction. Mr. Gates has been Merchant  
Consul, & Secretary of Legation with Mr. Todd  
at this place - On leaving here some 17  
or 18 years ago, he sold out his commercial  
interest to two partners - Three days before  
Mr. Gates arrived here in the South American  
last week, a Mr. Palmer arrived from  
Liverpool, one of the partners - Looking over  
the arrivals, <sup>at 19th Inst</sup> he with great pleasure and  
surprise saw another of their partners  
<sup>Mr. Prince</sup> announced in the French Steamer just  
in Rio from Bordeaux, the one we sailed  
with. Said Palmer to himself I wonder  
if our old friend Gates will never come  
out to Rio again & with a feeling at the  
same time - Pursuing the column he  
saw the arrival of our ship the South  
America, found Mr. Gates among them  
and came around immediately to see him - Three  
partners all unexpectedly to each other arrived by 3  
different steamers from different & distant parts of the world  
2 of them on same day, the other 3 on before.



Palma had taken the business to himself (13  
at last, and left a manager who had  
run off with 150,000 of his money or squandered it  
and Mr. P. had to come out to attend to it -

Rio contains 400,000 people  
(many foreigners among them) of whom only  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  are white,  $\frac{1}{4}$  black, and the rest  
a mixed race of ~~the~~ city is one of the  
cleanest, best water, best lighted and  
best paved I have ever seen <sup>about  $\frac{1}{20}$  of the</sup>  
<sup>about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>blacks are free, but</sup>  
They are a remarkably courteous obliging  
people, and all the colors seem to har-  
monize - Of native mind I should

think there was scarcely enough in the entire  
city to make a dozen strong well furnished  
intellects, yet I am frequently struck with  
the competency ~~as~~ little mechanics and ship  
tenders or of very young boys especially of the  
mixed races, and the vigour with which  
the people assail with dull and ponderous  
the huge hills of solid rock that press  
on all sides upon the city appears one that  
a force here from somewhere or other -  
Probably foreign capital and Irish labourers -

The stone is much used in building, especially  
for cornices, hewn, and door & window frames  
or substitutes for the same material in rubble  
masonry structures - The stone is a coarse  
mixture of blue and white a granite.  
An English Company has lately finished a system of sewage  
for the city, which is said to be the best in the world, the  
work complete.

The pavements were formerly imported from  
Isle of white, in small blocks, but it is now  
procured near Bote-ford, a sort of brittle  
gray granite - not so good as the imported  
and cuts about as much - The side walks  
are made of native granite also in pieces 4 or 5  
feet square - I recollect being at a flag stone  
quarry on the North coast of Scotland in 1856, a few  
miles west of "John O' Groats" where, they told me,

Some say  $\frac{1}{2}$  the  
coloured race are  
free.



They sent a great deal of their flying to Rio de Janeiro & St. Petersburg &c, &c. - One of the very finest hospitals I ever saw is also here - It is <sup>gorgeous</sup> clean & with its <sup>garden</sup> by drains & stone baths on a high hill in the city commanding a view of the harbour, all the surroundings and the ocean ~~the mountains in the distance~~ <sup>6500 feet the highest - some say only 3500</sup> Some of which look more like long fingers pointing to the skies than like mts, though others are rounded & bold enough -

This establishment has 120 long granite steps up <sup>hill</sup> to the Convent of which it is a part - St Anthony. The institution is supported by a brotherhood - The Portuges have also a fine hospital in Rio. Another Convent is St. Al.

Another example by the shore is a splendid  
exedra, for poorer people - nearly opposite  
to it is a lodging house & retreat for  
beggars - a class that does not appear to be  
numerous here - And on the beach below  
Botafogo is a Lacerdian asylum that I took  
for an imperial palace - With the ex-  
ception of two or three Stone Churches, this  
asylum is the only <sup>notable</sup> good building (archi-  
tecturally I have seen - besides pretty villas.  
The city is picturesque.

The city is picturesque  
There is not a street of good fine houses  
but they are generally good & nice and  
buildings, usually tile roofs, generally  
one and two story in most of the streets  
with an occasional 3 or 4 story towering  
above its neighbors on either hand -  
The streets are usually ~~and often picturesque~~ straight, ~~and~~ or  
nearly so and of moderate width, but  
some of the new ones are very wide  
Excepting of the lower <sup>& stranger</sup> classes, ~~foreigners~~ women are never  
seen in the streets more than they are in  
Constantinople, and as to beauty it seems  
an improbability of the climate & circumstances.



In a Photographs' establishment I noticed the other picture was a mulatto woman. The men character is in the negro faces and some of them whom I take to be Mahomedans are really remarkable for beauty but fine expression. The tribal marks on the face are very various, many of scars done in childhood in Africa, and I see many persons not over 30 who wear them. The negro appears to be generally indolent and I often notice them sewing strips of beaded into hats as they walk the streets - diligent as are the poor in Europe - especially in Great Britain, where 12 hours work will hardly earn the miserable pence and refuse the labourer has to live upon. They carry burdens on their heads, even a water-melon - they have something like a long towel hanging on neck or shoulder which they roll into a coil for the top of the head when called to carry. I see carts of wine or other merchandise on men's shoulders, but mules & carts have chiefly superseded this one universal mode of carrying merchandise to or from shops and warehouses.

I believe though white linen is considerably worn, woollen clothes and hats are considered coolest, at least more comfortable. And I am surprised to see what numbers wear "tin pipe" silk blank hats - quite heavy articles and walk without umbrellas. White umbrellas are common, and I see dogs worn frequently by negroes & sometimes by poor whites. Right & left on the side walk appears to be quite generally ignored - I see very little intemperance, plenty of coffee & hydrants. I recollect in London there was I think but one drinking fountain in the streets - It had been just erected by Mr. Gurney I think.



but it would not put a tumbler much under a minute. People are forced into beer & gin shops - to ask for a glass of water in a London tavern without paying for a mug of beer would be unchristian.

I am told of a man is seen reeling here it is taken for granted he is a drunken Englishman. Doubtless often an American staggering under the protection of English credit.

There is a public square by the theatre in the centre of which is a large Bronze Equestrian statue of Dom Pedro & figures surrounding the great river, of Brazil. A coarse work but has a pretty iron fence around its high granite pedestal.

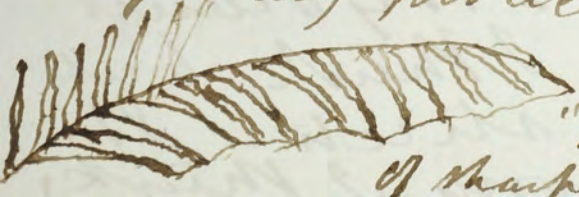
The grass in the public garden is kept mown and is green enough, but it is so stiff and broad leaved & coarse, that walking on it feels like crisp chips or a corn husk mat.

The "Public Garden" about a mile from here toward Botafogo, fronting on the Bay, which is very beautiful in labels specimens of tropical trees and plants, and beautifully kept with a fine mosaic terrace of marble elevated on its water front, whence is a glorious view. The view of the <sup>islands</sup> ~~islands~~ and ~~gorges~~ <sup>passes</sup> ~~between~~ <sup>between</sup> them from the bay opposite Botafogo is not unlike the Highlands of the Hudson but far finer. I passed through them on the way to the "Botanic Garden" a few miles out of town.

In this Public garden are many fine palm trees. I saw there a true Heliconia in flower about 9 ft high. Also a double Althea of rich crimson flowers rivaling the famous <sup>crimson</sup> ~~Rhododendron~~ <sup>Rhododendron</sup>. The Caouchoe specimen there are not over 20 ft high, but its leaf is one of the finest.

A palm (Madagascan I think) has leaves about 7 feet long and 3 wide. The new & tender upper ones singularly protied as is a sail by its "bolt rope".

I show the leaves on one side without "the bolt rope". The large leaf being composed of sharp leaflets as a rule.





There are a few ~~birds~~ fowls kept there (17)  
on a little winding lake. The day was considered  
hot by the people here, and the Swan the only  
I have seen in Brazil, sat under in the water  
under dense herbage his neck coiled on his  
back like a rope, taking ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> vintical seen  
very coolly, after the vident ~~surf~~ had done with it.  
As a cormorant of some sort, who stood on the  
bank in the sun in <sup>with</sup> wings, every feather  
distended, planting a prayer, pitiful to witness.

By the way I find a ~~clinging~~ fishing bird here  
that takes his prey in the same manner with  
the Solon Gull or Gannet, and is, so far as it goes,  
a confirmation of my magnetic theory of the  
mode of birds taking ~~their~~ <sup>their</sup> prey & which applies  
also to some other birds of prey. I have tried  
to get naturalists to examine the subject.

Brazil is not much concerned about other  
people's affairs, I am told, but as might have  
been expected, Slavery here sympathized with  
Slavery elsewhere and took the Southern side  
in our late rebellion.

I find the priests here rarely appear in  
the streets except in citizens' processions. They  
appear to be despised and abhorred of all  
who are not their victims. Generally they are  
ignorant and dispolitic, considered as being  
extremely base and unprincipled, and very  
few are <sup>even</sup> admitted into respectable houses.

As a class they are considered the most  
corrupt in the empire. Such I am told is their  
reputation in Brazil generally - Bad as in Mexico.

Monasteries & Convents are extinguished by Statute  
and will soon be at an end. Nuns that came  
out from France have been ordered to leave - it being  
assembled that they were mischievous in doctrine, looks  
of Jesuits.

At a church there I saw eleven  
priests singing a mumbo jumbo of some  
sort at an altar, attended by 2 boys



each in a sort of grey white tunic. I was aware there were probably waiters, but was not a little amused when a priest turned and beckoned to one of them who immediately responded by preping a snuff box around to several of the priests some of whom accepted by taking a pinch.

I was talking to day with a prominent man ~~in~~ the railway station, who says the hospitals here are remarkably good, and the reputation of the priests, bad.

The water tax is about 12 \$ per year per each by drawn in a house. <sup>The streets</sup> ~~that~~ <sup>black</sup> are adult. <sup>white & have nice cane, arm chairs, for this</sup> <sup>ecclesiastic</sup> - <sup>price 4 cts</sup> "Bathis" are quite numerous & cost 50 cts for cold water in London good hot ones are 6 cts and uperated.

Rents of houses have tripled within 20 years. Either climate or food appears unfavorable to houses which are small, and rather se to cows, and as to dogs, I never saw so many pitiful objects lying out doors, sick, helpless skeletons with swollen throats, reeling about. To die, and the cats are generally little more than skin & bone skulls human look well and though small drawn heavy loads. For some reason the carts and wagons which are more than doubly as heavy as we use them. The Hacks are excellent and numerous,

a sort of Gig called Tibbery I see numbered as high as 600 is very comfortable for one passenger or 2 if the driver has an extra seat. a large number of different sized omnibuses

(called "Gondolas" here) that carry 6 or 8 persons on top beside inside passengers afford ready access to the suburbs and outskirts at from 10 15 cts. They are drawn by 2-3, and 4 or 5 mules according to size of vehicle - 3 abreast and 2 leaders or the reverse, but never tandem. They scabble along very rapidly and are generally in good order though much abused, apparently. I was struck with the evidence of confidence in a General honesty, a big leather bag with the copper coin in it hanging open outside of the drivers seat & he often away. These copper coins are 20 + 40 Reals



1 and 2 etc ~~cells~~ the latter called ~~cells~~  
Their value was formerly double these amounts  
40 and 80 Reas, but have been stamped to  
one half to prevent the counterfeits from Jersey  
City (I am told) which were smuggled into Brazil  
in every possible way by the high-handed merchants  
of that neighbourhood.

Sheep here are small, and I saw two men  
pulling all the wool from one that took it  
very quickly, the new growth being half an inch  
long and the old probably very long.

A street leading runs out to foot of Jacica, but  
it is silent at present for want of passengers. Omnibuses  
go there. The favorite palace is at Petropolis 80 miles off in

The city palace of the <sup>the original</sup> emperor stands on a  
paved square & carriage stand close by the bay  
and from whence several little steamers ply  
as ferries to Botafogo and other points around  
the Bay. It has no garden or enclosure  
and is a very plain building - 2 and 3 low  
stories 300 by 110 feet, this represents the residence  
but there are barracks, chapel &c adjoining which  
cover about as much more ground.

At St Christopher just out of town he has  
another standing on quite an eminence  
The front portion is pretty, Italian in style  
3 stories high 200 feet front about 65 deep -  
Barracks & ~~other~~ building in rear adjoining  
upfront about as much more room.

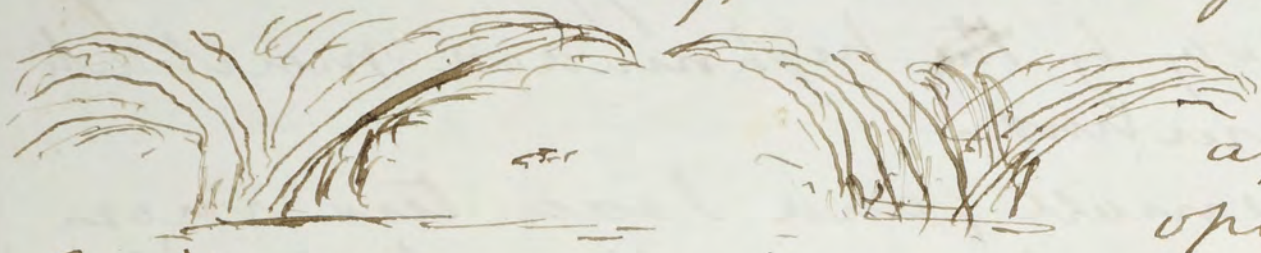
An extensive garden or park (probably 1000  
acres in extent) adjoins on one side the palace  
down in a level flat where is a muddy little  
stream from which I can buy catching little fish  
and crabs, and also an oblong pond enclosed  
with iron & marble. Very little interest

excepting great avenues of Bamboo, which are  
in bunches elliptical say 15 by 12 feet each -  
in which the bamboo is so close together as  
toppots, and are 50 feet high, the clusters  
very but a short distance apart - They droop  
at top or necessarily diverge and meet over  
head, are not stiff but graceful and of  
fine green, stem and all. There are probably

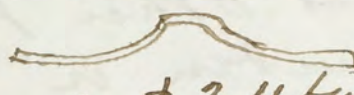
Palace -  
at St Christopher  
the garden had been  
cultivated of the bamboo



more than a mile of them densely shaded  
walks in one of them the Brambles are  
made to bend down so as to surround one  
of the broad short low gloomy arches of  
a Cathedral Crypt on a huge scale



The place appears to be open to all and quite ungarrisoned - And through it the Emperor, (who is doubtless a man of enlightened liberality of mind) permits the Rio and Comercio Rail way to pass. A work that penetrates 91 miles into the country and has 30 miles more of track ready for the Rails - The Government now owns the work, first undertaken by British capitalists who proved unsatisfactory -

The rails are  supported by a breadth of 12 inch bearing and rest on small square sleepers of iron. The cars are American in general appearance but smaller & plainer & of three classes about 4 cts per mile for the second class. The telegraph poles are about 13 feet high of galvanised sheet iron riveted into a tapering pipe for each pole. The fuel is coke - Spiced stone, coffee the chief freight, but has also a large number of passengers. I shall go up to Comercio

in present terms 91 miles in a few days. There is a great variety of fine building & ship timber, but a want of soft timber here - but great quantities of large red cedar South of here. There is a government dry dock on a little island close by and opposite the Navy yard, cut out of solid granite at an immense cost - the contractor lost 30,000 £. There is an iron ship house & quite extensive works for ship building at the Navy yard -

27th Dec 66. The day has been exceedingly a very hot one, as well as yesterday but I have often seen it much more so I think even at Annandale - There is a rumour of 2 Brazilian coasting Steamers being captured not far from here - Supposed by a Paraguayan but some think the Peruvians have done it though no war has been declared by that power. The Emperor is said to be in town & fitting out ships to pursue



There are many fine houses of large size here, especially about 27  
Bolingbroke, generally 2 stories - but I think are too elaborate in style for large cities.  
Dec 28. 66. Yesterday was attracted by the residence of

This instance of an establishment that is at  
 the same time <sup>very</sup> large and fine - It proved  
 to be that of Baron Bonfin on a street 80 feet  
 wide near the Carrizal roofed iron framed rail  
 station of the Rio & commercial - The front of the  
 station is stucco in stone and quite handsome -  
 Baron Bonfin house is plain in exterior, but  
 high & quite irregular in outline, with large  
 gardens in view that abut against the steep  
 hill sides that bound the town there -  
 Christmas Eve I stopped ~~in~~ at the English Chapel a  
 nice plain interior as well as externally, that with  
 seats on cane settles instead of pews in this but I think  
 I should think nearly 600 persons - There were only  
 about 45 persons present (5 females) all young -  
 and that R Beecher told me the morning service  
 commanded no more - If the school houses be not  
 abolished what will become of the churches and  
 their "only true religion" Is it possible God cannot  
 protect the holy doctrines in the interest of which he  
 sacrificed the only son he ever had -  
 The whistling went I saw +

The whistling insect I mentioned is truly remarkable when I heard them first I could not believe such a noise could be made by any thing of the sort but day before yesterday in the Public Garden I saw about a dozen on <sup>one</sup> ~~each~~ almost leafy tree - They are like our locusts, <sup>but</sup> 2 or 3 times as large; do not sing long - not unlike the tone of ours but sharper without being shrill - At intervals they make a loud clacking, a few moments then whistle again - after a few moments all are silent - and no more is heard of them - I have been looking for them out

them. Speaking of clack in <sup>I think out</sup> Hauken here, are  
~~one time out of ten carry a couple of~~ <sup>these are random 1 cotton & - The clacker</sup>  
~~with a couple of rose wood~~ <sup>different kind of cloth being</sup>  
 thick, nicely made with heavy, and about 2 feet  
 long fastened at one end by a hinge - With this they  
 occasionally give 2 or 3 clacks as they pass along, instead  
 of using their fingers <sup>These are random 1 cotton & - The clacker</sup>  
<sup>make 3 measures -</sup> <sup>different kind of cloth being</sup>  
 Confetti may be much used here - I have only been tempted  
 by the ground nut & sugar cake sold by negro women as  
 in Philadelphia, but here it is much superior & the nuts always  
 fresh & sweet - Speaking of the different measures above, it  
 is very common on this coast to estimate the same gold  
 coin at different values accordg to the articles purchased,  
 in many instances - The gold being estimated



from different foreign countries, and exchanges & values being very imperfectly regulated. I am told was the cause of these complications. The business of a merchant under such circumstances must have been much of a monopoly. outsiders could not so easily get in. I was only another form of what we are yet suffering for want of an universal system of weights measures & coinage.

Spunky of the Harker and his good his command by a chacker who preceded him, reminds me of one I saw at Galatz near the black sea. Marching down the middle of the street with a coarse coat on his arm for sale (worth about 8 dollars) preceded by a mob of his principal, a lot of about a row ahead of his principal, a lot of retail auction, a sale by drum, not by "hue & cry" as the old advertisements used to phrase auctions.

The people here are remarkably courteous & are ready to answer questions, but very few of them speak english, and I think as a rule are very dull at comprehension. And women who are so much quicker than men are never seen on the street, except the very ignorant class. I understand the government here rejects and orders back about 50 of the St. George passports that came on our ship under auspices, and that several foreigners who have been protesting Brazil as planters ~~have~~ returned on the South America that sailed hence for St. York on the 22<sup>d</sup>. The Barranca is cut down when it has borne its fruit.

The Hotel is very noisy but otherwise satisfactory, better than I had expected. I have changed my room 3 times to be quiet, and can now find one of the bay and the high signal hill and other green hills close by me ~~and~~. I can look the town ~~between~~ and also have a fine view of the fine convent <sup>St. Anthony</sup> & Hospital I spoke of. The beautiful Carrizillo and Tipica hills & others more distant. The Aqueduct on arches of stone masonry is quite a fine object when near it, crossing a fine stream from its projection from the mountain side losing itself again in one of the big hills behind St. Anthony. It was built long ago by Jesuits, & could 35 large brass cocks at one fountain in a small square the other day & similar ones are very

the better class of people only into the water is in no danger



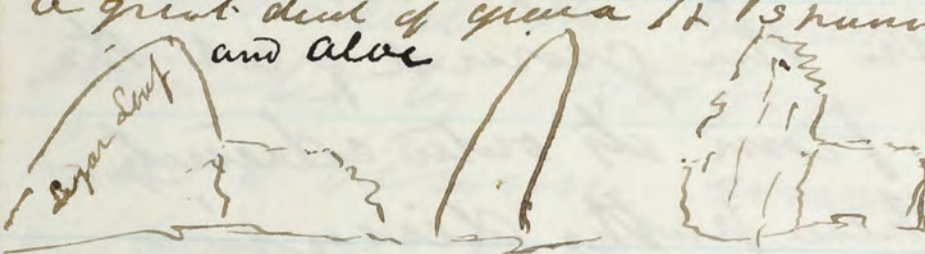
numerous, while single ones are seen every  
where sticking out of the sides of houses especially  
at corners and frequently to a 5 in walking  
twice as many rods. The water is carried from  
them chiefly on *Agave* beds in a sort of half  
barrel tub with iron handles. These hold about  
15 gallons and fill in a very short time. There are  
also numerous places, where highland on which  
drawn by mules are filled from a ~~spring~~ *spring*  
post, from each of the 4 sides of which projects  
a long tube 12 or 14 feet so that 4 can be even  
stand and fill at the same time. To one  
who comes in air first but water only the 2<sup>d</sup> condition  
of good health this ~~proportion~~ of water is a most  
agreeable sight besides being one of the most  
beautiful gifts of nature. The third condition  
simple food is abundant here in an hundred  
fruits ~~that cost~~ without cost almost, as well  
as the Farina that is the flour of the poor and  
in fact much eaten by the rich. Farina is  
served uncooked (but must be first heated  
~~as it is poison~~) and looks more like corn  
than any thing else. It is eaten  
as we use rice, is very delicate and I should  
think a ~~little~~ habit of using it would soon  
render it a great luxury. <sup>a variety of it is boiled like beef</sup> The tree pine on  
side hills best, is about 10 feet in 2 years from  
the cutting, and is planted in rows and hills  
about 18 inches high as we do potatoes. At the  
end of 2 years the roots are as large as a man's  
arm and is usually taken up, but sometimes  
when it is very large in *pieces* grown deep in a  
year or two large growing, and its size becomes  
very much larger. I see plenty of radishes. The  
egg plant here is not larger than a pound pear.  
I also see a <sup>crook necked</sup> ~~long~~ squash that is solid and  
looks very nice, <sup>and is said to be the best.</sup> It grows in Maryland also.  
I see no sweet potatoes and Irish ones do not  
succeed here more than a year or two from  
European seed. degenerating into very small size  
Impatation is large - and the rebound shape is  
about 3 <sup>or 4</sup> each on table. *Xhuxu* ("Shu Shu") is



The name of a vegetable, which in Brazil  
looks like boiled celery - is extremely delicate  
juicy and nice, and I think there 2 varieties  
of the same or very like it, common in Italy.  
<sup>Common & perfectly succulent are plenty - (the latter are boiled & eaten like the fruit of the Strombium)</sup> I visited Botofogo again today  
A most delightful place, and day rambling  
about the heavy ridden down in numbers  
for 20 cts & returned by Steam boat for 10 cts -  
This is a main concentration along the  
bay, of Rio - where are many fine large  
residences, but I think the style of them  
is generally too rich for large fine residences.  
Daring the "Gloria" (which is a high abrupt  
hill projecting into the bay & as wide as if it were  
at the source of the Amazon, with a little  
church (the Emperor) on its side, and its base  
paved all around with houses & villas  
upling water and breezes playing about their  
inviting terraces, so protected with trees & shrubs)  
we soon came to a new Barometrical residence  
not yet completed but already 500,000 dollars  
have been expended on it - Then taller are  
not hereditarily in Brazil, and therefore ought  
to be really honorable distinctions - The  
Knight in England is rather despised by the  
nobles than otherwise, as if they really did  
comprehend that ~~that~~ to be a Knight for  
something was really more honorable than  
to be a duke for nothing but by birthright.  
The ~~thirteen~~ <sup>two</sup> lived at various places in  
Rio <sup>where I saw</sup> ~~two~~ of them at the base of the Gloria, ~~then~~  
I took a bath in the bay (a little rough  
often is necessary in this well protected harbor  
that I cannot account for it) off some rocks  
nearly screened by shrubbery; ~~and~~ coming out  
I wiped my socks, soon found one had gone  
with the other bath, doubtless rats had  
been frightened from prizes for new nests by my  
sudden return to the shore - I walked along  
the beach to the base of Sugar loaf, a pretty yellow  
sand already in large variety of beautiful shells  
some of which I picked up, but how can I  
send them home -



Gas and water still continue all the way to the forts across this neck of land, and around the precipitous side of rugged steep things telegraph wires are attached to the rock for communication from fort to fort from the city. On the generally bare sides of these very smooth & steep faces of rock, water enough to make wet strips is constantly descending. Since I have been here at least, and in patches of areas enough of moisture is thus afforded to support various cacti &c. The pillar cacti here prostrate but curving up at the outer extremity, cover large spaces (intermingled with crust plants) resembling huge serpents coiled about, while the agave, (it looks like) rears its stem of white belly like flumes 6 or 7 feet high in all directions - a great deal of yucca & spurge are also among them.



Many of these rock 500 to 1200 ~~2400~~ feet high resemble <sup>seen on Eschsch</sup> not only a peculiar gothic tower of chambers, but in ~~design~~ instance the sharp huge roof of the church itself - the ridge line being almost at sharp and straight, and in one instance there is a ~~lower~~ dome at each end, one of them much higher than the other.


Several of the granite lacunae are in that neighborhood, but I looked in vain for Irishmen among the the lacunae. One I saw the other day who was evidently of Irish parentage and a leading workman, but he could not speak English. All colours work together & the colours seem to cut stone as well as any of them. I saw a very black negro patching Iron Lacunae upon the beach with 2 whites.

Several fine canoes (dug out) were on the beach with series in them, coloured with tan, brown like the herring nets of Scotland. There would not hold a fish much smaller than a herring. There is fish on table every day but I dare not touch, it is so apt to be bad in hot weather.



but I tried cystus soup to day and found  
the cystus rank and miserable.

I found a frog in the damp sand  
back of the beach much like our grass  
frog, rather larger & less bright, unlike the  
one I could not keep up with, the other day.  
This creature would not move, and seemed  
to be heavy to the sand. I pushed him away but  
found nothing - I tried sometimes but he was  
determined like Meller Stayer, when his  
mother told him he might get up now,  
(she had sent him to bed for punishment) "No  
I thank, I believe I'll stay a little longer"

On the grassy sand flat behind the beach were  
grazing some fine mules and fat large oxen.  
I soon discovered a winding path about 2 inches  
wide that puzzled me at first, but I  
traced it an ant-hole in the ground, at the  
distance of about 30 feet from its outer extremity -  
I found there were 5 of these paths diverging  
from the hole. The grass was closely shown  
down to the sand. Cents were going at high  
speed toward the hole, hundreds of them, each of  
them with a green bit of leaf from  to  
begin. Then out again and gave the appearance  
of a sail that carried each cent. In such a  
train a very rich stream path is of course  
absolutely necessary - The ants marched  
about in the grass, near to the path, to which  
they returned by the shortest line, when a leaf  
of the proper kind for the colony had been obtained.  
They were a large species red ant, but some were  
much smaller the majority of them.

Some of the canoes I spoke of were over  
20 feet ~~long~~ long and more than 3 feet wide  
inside - They ran down to about 1 1/2 feet thick,  
light & strong with a high projection at one end -  
must be made of large trees - The projection is  
probably the root end of the tree, where it curved  
off into the ground -



near the summit where the mountain  
flattens whole forests of tall palms  
loom above an undergrowth of great  
variety and richness - On many of these  
apparently inaccessible summits are little  
towns or summer houses, - on "Cucovado"  
is a stone ballustrade to prevent visitors  
falling off - The trunk of sugar cane plants  
2 in vertical row - The first person  
who ascended this (the latter years at least)  
is said to have been Doctor Brindell, a  
dentist who made & succeeded a fortune here  
& died in a mad house a few years ago -  
He was brother of the murdered Brindell in  
Brook N. Y. He took his wife & child up  
(what appears to be) this impossible ascent -

I visited the insane asylum so beautifully  
situated by Botolphs Beach - On entering the  
hall I became conscious of a very remarkable  
influence - surprisingly touching & grateful -  
while looking at statues of Esquival & Periel,  
a gentleman entered from a side door and asked  
if I desired to see the institution - I told him if  
it was convenient, He said certainly it was  
and leaving me soon returned with a nun or  
sister of charity who was remarkably pleasing in  
appearance and kind & gentle in manner -  
She took me up stairs first to the chapel  
a very charming beautiful one, and the virgin  
then a simply pretty devout looking woman,  
I think in a pretty picture - The first instance  
in which I have ever seen the Mother of God in  
any church (that I can recollect) other than the  
most bedegged piece of the lowest & possible conception  
of humanity I have ever seen presented in connection  
with the slightest idea of elevation - I was next  
conducted to a window behind the chapel where is  
a view into the large area of Pinner Garden  
shrubbery & walks at the rear of the Asylum,  
and the fine grey and mountainy Ebor  
cemetery beyond the (The view from



The front is of the bay & surrounds and  
part of the city of Rio.

I was taken through the various wards  
I cannot remember of an institution evening  
more fully the spirit of its foundation than  
this - The neatness and simple elegance  
the care for the comfort of its inmates in  
large rooms with beds & other furnished  
numerous and ample corridors, all  
the floors waxed, but most of all the  
numerous salutations of the men from  
all sides, the scenery up to keep her hand  
to catch a ray of the benign influence  
that shone from her upon every thing around  
afford an opportunity I would not have  
sought for much, though I had no idea  
of going in, when I came to the door -  
In one room a large number were making  
bush flowers &c. - in another made work of  
every grade of skill - The flowers are for sale  
and portions of the made work for the soldiers -  
Members of men were skating about the floor  
upon shoes with rollers that they kept the  
floor in a constant condition of gloss and  
lustre as well as rather a dangerous degree of  
lubricity - Black & white all together, and  
I saw one very tall priest among the patients -  
One fellow offered me snuff, and kept my  
hand with delight when I took a pinch - Several  
gave me the same salutation - Such is one  
of the results of a catholic system which I suspect  
in institution of men is superior to that of any  
other christian sect whatever - The  
The entire establishment appears to be as clean as  
a much plate glass and as sweet as the fresh  
air of heaven itself - I called also to day to see  
Richard H. Atkinson - nephew of your friend R. W. H.  
he appears to be a worthy, good man, and acts as  
clerk (I think) for a Mr. Matthews here, it seems to  
be a large establishment - in St. Pedro St.  
There are many little low churches about the  
city which are often very pretty -



Riv Dec 29th 66- I called to day to see  
Mr James Monroe the American Consul  
here the past 4 years. A grand son of  
Abel Collins, known all the friends of Rhode  
Island ~~Chas. Monticelli~~ but lived at  
Oxford Ohio from youth. He is a good  
looking man, and I suppose a son of  
Cornell Monroe, whom I have heard of  
but never saw. He was very glad to see  
one whom he could talk about Rhode  
Island with - and gave me an urgent  
invitation to go immediately to St Domingo  
(opposite end of bay by steamer in 15 hours)  
with him to dinner, when his wife & family  
reside with him. I am engaged however  
to dine with Mr Wright (of Wright & Co)  
at their house in town, at 4, and then  
go over with him to his buckskin hall at  
St Domingo, for his wife is in Baltimore,  
Mr Wright taking turns with another brother  
of 3 years off & on as pastorsey of their  
church. Mr Wright gave me an open  
invitation to dine with him & then go  
over to his house for the night, when I  
first came, but I have been so busy  
I could not spare time. <sup>Monroe has application from</sup>  
<sup>have come out here from the S for work</sup>  
I shall go to Tipton <sup>from</sup> <sup>ammonium for aid who</sup>  
<sup>think cabinet is not high price here.</sup> for a  
couple of days and then to elliptical &  
then will be ready to go to Montevideo &  
Buenos Ayres. This letter I shall send  
by ship to Baltimore & possibly a  
package, the latter to care of Com. G.  
Harrison. With love to all & go afftly with  
the most cool & delightful nothing  
could be better yesterday & to day - Sun vertical  
of course



Dec 30. I am at old Wright at St. Domingos, 3 miles  
across the bay from Rio - a place of little value among  
the hills where is every thing tropical almost, cultivated  
and wild - Monkeys & Sloths <sup>& Iguana</sup> are also in the neighborhood.  
The Ther falls to 50° in winter here which is considerably  
cold. Beef is 12 cts the mutton 32. Irish butter 50 to 60 cts the  
the more I speak of by the end costs 12½ dollars a cwt, but  
every body buys all sorts every day as negro waste.  
Lard is 1 to 150 cts per lb without tallow, in country about  
15 dollars per month. Murre has his house beautifully  
situated on the water close by here and we spent last  
evening there. He has a 2 wife & 4 daughters - also  
a daughter daughter of Rhode Island, was there - we had  
a family from North part of Rhode Island, was there - we had  
a pleasant evening, music & so on  
Boil rice thoroughly - then mix some stewed tomatoes  
with it - put this into a mould hollowing out the centre  
then fill this centre with thoroughly boiled pumpkin  
and bake in an oven - This is a most excellent  
dish either as a vegetable with meat, or by itself - a sort  
of boiled pumpkin pie, with boiled crust of rice & tomatoes -  
Coffe, mungos (cupava) grow here - The Farina is from  
the root of Maniocca, as well as the Tapioca, but  
the root made into Tapioca, becomes by the preparation  
unsuitable for Farina. Coffe is here also, and Guava - The  
Cust bean is a small tree, but no handronia as usual.  
The black Mexican bean is remarkably fine here and  
a great dish. The Guava is a tree 10 or 12 ft high.  
The Purple Pear which produces the cochineal is water  
here, at least is wild - orange figs, lemons every  
thing, is every where hereabouts, as blackberries  
with us. I see the branching stems of the Aloe  
that flowered last winter, say June,  
are standing about leafless and dead  
on the hills 25 feet high - There are most  
beautiful views of mts hills & water here in  
all directions from every height - and among  
the luxuries of the locality a nice secluded  
sand beach where we bathed in rapid breakers.  
A fort on a hill, a little Ehrenbrieststein,  
in front guarded with Negroes, and at every  
turn of the ascending galleries of stairs of white  
stone stood little black sentinels, 9 to 14 yrs old  
each with his drawn sabre.  
Dec 31. Happy new year - came to town from old Wright  
to day have had a delightful time there a day & 2 nights  
Two American war steamers are on foot - the war is costing Brazil  
200,000 dollars per day -